

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and the following remarks are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Reconsideration of the subject patent application in view of the present remarks is respectfully requested.

#### ***Specification***

The reference numeral '3a' has been deleted from paragraphs [0027], [0029], and [0031] of the specification.

#### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103***

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over the applicants' admitted prior art (hereinafter "AAPA" – paragraphs [0004]-[0011] of specification; and "Prior Art" Figures 3 and 4) in view of JP 2003285167A (hereinafter "Nishimura"). For at least the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

The argument in the Office action is based on an incorrect understanding of the differences between the present invention and AAPA. In particular, the Office action (lines 3-5, page 6) stated that the wire feeder sensor cable is accommodated within the robot main body, which is referred to in the specification with reference numeral 101. However, claims 1-4 recite that the wire feeder sensor cable is accommodated in the "robot-main-body-driving" power cable, which is referred to in the specification with reference numeral 102a. These two statements must be distinguished because it is possible to accommodate the wire feeder sensor cable within the robot main body while leaving the wire feeder sensor cable out of the robot main body driving power cable. The Office action's following discussion of Nishimura was

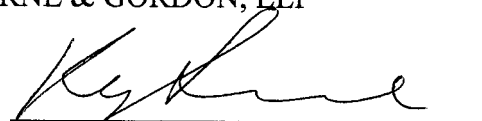
based on an understanding that the wire feeder sensor cable is accommodated within the robot main body. However, the invention at issue is a different one and the teachings referred to by the Office action have no relevance in the present obviousness analysis. Consequently, the Office action failed to address the arguments made by the applicants in Amendment B. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to review the arguments in the previous response. Applicants believe that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made and that the Examiner's rejection must be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. NGB-39626.

Respectfully submitted,  
PEARNE & GORDON, LLP

By:

  
Seongyoun Kang – Reg. No. L0391

1801 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 1200  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108  
(216) 579-1700

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